



Petition to Revive Unintentional Abandonment  
Application No. 09/883,502

the PTO is authorized to credit or charge such variance to the undersigned's PTO Deposit  
Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,

**HUNTON & WILLIAMS LLP**

Date: November 6, 2006

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Application No. 09/883,502

**EXHIBIT A**

**Acknowledgement Receipt**


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**eFiled Application Information**

EFS ID	1060490
Application Number	09883502
Confirmation Number	8691
Title	Report system and method using prompt objects
First Named Inventor	Jeffrey A. Bedell
Customer Number or Correspondence Address	21967
Filed By	Brian M. Buroker 
Attorney Docket Number	53470.003037
Filing Date	19-JUN-2001
Receipt Date	30-MAY-2006
Application Type	Utility

**Application Details**

Submitted Files	Page Count	Document Description	File Size	Warnings
DOC.PDF	2	Amendment - After Non-Final Rejection	106227 bytes	◆ PASS
fee-info.pdf	2	Fee Worksheet (PTO-875)	8139 bytes	◆ PASS

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If a new application is being filed and the application includes the necessary components for a filing date (see 37 CFR 1.53 (b)-(d) and MPEP 506), a Filing Receipt (37 CFR 1.54) will be issued in due course and the date shown on this Acknowledgement Receipt will establish the filing date of the application.

National Stage of an International Application under 35 U.S.C. 371

If a timely submission to enter the national stage of an international application is compliant with the conditions of 35 U.S.C. 371 and other applicable requirements a Form PCT/DO/EO/903 indicating acceptance of the application as a national stage submission under 35 U.S.C. 371 will be issued in addition to the Filing Receipt, in due course.

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## Electronic Patent Application Fee Transmittal

<b>Application Number:</b>	09883502			
<b>Filing Date:</b>	19-Jun-2001			
<b>Title of Invention:</b>	Report system and method using prompt objects			
<b>First Named Inventor:</b>	Jeffrey A. Bedell			
<b>Filer:</b>	Brian M. Buroker/Florence McKeon			
<b>Attorney Docket Number:</b>	53470.003037			
Filed as Large Entity				
<b>Utility Filing Fees</b>				
<b>Description</b>	<b>Fee Code</b>	<b>Quantity</b>	<b>Amount</b>	<b>Sub-Total in USD(\$)</b>
<b>Basic Filing:</b>				
<b>Pages:</b>				
<b>Claims:</b>				
<b>Miscellaneous-Filing:</b>				
<b>Petition:</b>				
<b>Patent-Appeals-and-Interference:</b>				
<b>Post-Allowance-and-Post-Issuance:</b>				
<b>Extension-of-Time:</b>				
Extension - 2 months with \$0 paid	1252	1	450	450

Description	Fee Code	Quantity	Amount	Sub-Total in USD(\$)
Miscellaneous:				
Total in USD (\$)				450

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application Number : 09/883,502                      Confirmation No.: 8691  
Applicant : Jeffrey A. Bedell et al.  
Filed : June 19, 2001  
Title : REPORT SYSTEM AND METHOD USING PROMPT OBJECTS  
TC/Art Unit : 2178  
Examiner: : Cong-Lac Huynh  
Atty. Docket No. : 53470.003037  
Customer No. : 21967

**MAIL STOP AMENDMENT**

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME AND**  
**RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION DATED DECEMBER 30, 2005**

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed December 30, 2005, Applicants submits the following:

- **Request for Extension of Time** begins on page 2.
- **Amendments to the Claims** appear in the listing of claims, which begin on page 3.
- **Remarks** begin on page 7.



**PETITION FOR EXTENSION OF TIME**

Applicants petition the Commissioner of the United States Patent and Trademark Office for a two month extension of time until May 30, 2006 for responding to the Office Action dated December 30, 2005 in the above-referenced application. Please charge the fee of \$450.00 and any deficiency in or overpayment of this fee should be charged or credited to Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

**Listing of Claims**

This response does not amend any of the claims, which are included herewith for completeness.

1. (Previously presented) A prompt object on a computer-readable medium used in creating a report to be executed in a reporting system, wherein the report may specify a prompt object as a property of the report, the prompt object comprising:
  - a question to be asked of a user; and
  - at least one validation property;wherein the prompt object is used in creating a report to be executed in a reporting system, wherein the report may specify a prompt object as a property of the report, and wherein the prompt object is an object separate from the report such that the prompt object may be used more than once in a single report or may be used in more than one report.
2. (Original) The prompt object of claim 1 further comprising a prompt type and wherein at least one validation property comprises verification that the answer provided to the question is of the specified prompt type.
3. (Original) The prompt object of claim 1 further comprising a default answer to the question.
4. (Original) The prompt object of claim 1 further comprising a meaning that, upon request by a responder to the prompt, provides an explanation of the question.
5. (Original) The prompt object of claim 1 further comprising a reuse value that indicates whether an answer provided from a previous instance of that prompt object, a default value or a new value is to be used for an answer to the question in the prompt object.
6. (Previously presented) A computer-implemented method of creating a report to be executed on a reporting system the method comprising the steps of:
  - selecting a template with one or more template properties;
  - selecting a filter with one or more filter properties; and
  - specifying one or more of the template or filter properties with a prompt object;wherein the prompt object comprises:
  - a question to be asked of a user; and

at least one validation property, wherein the prompt object is an object separate from the report and separate from the one or more templates or filters such that the prompt object may be used more than once in a single report or may be used in more than one report.

7. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the prompt object further comprises a prompt type and wherein at least one validation property comprises verification that the answer provided to the question is of the specified prompt type.

8. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the prompt object further comprises a default answer to the question.

9. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the prompt object further comprises a meaning that, upon request by a responder to the prompt, provides an explanation of the question.

10. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the prompt object further comprises a reuse value that indicates whether an answer provided from a previous instance of that prompt object, a default value or a new value is to be used for an answer to the question in the prompt object.

11. (Previously presented) The method of claim 6 further comprising the step of specifying a single prompt object for a plurality of properties in the report and wherein upon report execution, the question receives only one answer that is provided to a each property properties for which the prompt object was specified.

12. (Original) The method of claim 6 further comprising specifying at most one prompt object for a template or filter property.

13. (Original) The method of claim 6 wherein the template comprises a set of templates properties and the filter comprises a set of filter properties and wherein every template and filter property may be specified as a prompt object.

14. (Previously presented) A processor-readable medium comprising code for execution by a processor to create a report to be executed on a reporting system, the medium comprising:

code for causing a processor to enable a user to select a template with one or more template properties;

code for causing a processor to enable a user to select a filter with one or more filter properties; and

code for causing a processor to enable a user to specify one or more of the template or filter properties with a prompt object;

wherein the prompt object comprises:

a question to be asked of a user; and

at least one validation property, wherein the prompt object is an object separate from the report such that the prompt object may be used more than once in a single report or may be used in more than one report.

15. (Original) The medium of claim 14 wherein the prompt object further comprises a prompt type and wherein at least one validation property comprises verification that the answer provided to the question is of the specified prompt type.

16. (Original) The medium of claim 14 wherein the prompt object further comprises a default answer to the question.

17. (Original) The medium of claim 14 wherein the prompt object further comprises a meaning that, upon request by a responder to the prompt, provides an explanation of the question.

18. (Original) The medium of claim 14 wherein the prompt object further comprises a reuse value that indicates whether an answer provided from a previous instance of that prompt object, a default value or a new value is to be used for an answer to the question in the prompt object.

19. (Previously presented) The medium of claim 14 further comprising code for enabling a user to specify a single prompt object for a plurality of properties in a report definition object and wherein upon report execution, the question receives only one answer that is provided to a each property properties for which the prompt object was specified.

20. (Original) The medium of claim 14 wherein the template comprises a set of templates properties and the filter comprises a set of filter properties and further comprising code for causing a processor to enable a user to specify a prompt object fear each template and filter property selected.

21. (Previously presented) A system for a report to be executed on a reporting system comprising of:

report selection means embodied on a computer-readable medium that enables a report creator to define one or more of a template, filter, or properties thereof with a prompt object;

wherein the prompt object comprises:

a question to be asked of a user; and

at least one validation property, wherein the prompt object is an object separate from the report such that the prompt object may be used more than once in a single report or may be used in more than one report.

22. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the prompt object further comprises a prompt type and wherein at least one validation property comprises verification that the answer provided to the question is of the specified prompt type.

23. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the prompt object further comprises a default answer to the question.

24. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the prompt object further comprises a meaning that, upon request by a responder to the prompt, provides an explanation of the question.

25. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the prompt object further comprises a reuse value that indicates whether an answer provided from a previous instance of that prompt object, a default value or a new value is to be used for an answer to the question in the prompt object.

26. (Previously presented) The system of claim 21 wherein the report selection means enables a report creator to specify a single prompt object for a plurality of properties in the report and wherein upon report execution, the question receives only one answer that is provided to a each property properties for which the prompt object was specified.

27. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the report selection means enables a report creator to specify at most one prompt object for a template or filter property.

28. (Original) The system of claim 21 wherein the template comprises a set of templates properties and the filter comprises a set of filter properties and wherein every template and filter property may be specified as a prompt object.

**REMARKS**

Reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested. In response to the Non-Final Office Action ("Action") mailed December 30, 2005, Applicants submit the following. Claims 1-28 are pending.

Based on the following remarks, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner reconsider and withdraw all outstanding rejections.

**Double Patenting Rejection**

On pages 2-4, the Action provisionally rejects claims 1, 3, 6, and 8 on the ground of nonstatutory obviousness-type double patenting as allegedly being unpatentable over claims 1, 5, 6, and 10 of copending application no. 09/883,303.

Page 2 of the Action states:

A timely filed terminal disclaimer in compliance with 37 CFR 1.321(c) or 1.321(d) may be used to overcome an actual or provisional rejection based on a nonstatutory double patenting ground provided the conflicting application or patent either is shown to be commonly owned with this application, or claims an invention made as a result of activities undertaken within the scope of a joint research agreement.

On February 23, 2005, Applicants submitted a Terminal Disclaimer stating that this application and 09/883,303 are commonly owned. Accordingly, Applicants believe that the double patenting rejection is improper. Applicants respectfully request that the double patenting rejection be withdrawn.

**Rejections under 35 U.S.C. § 102**

On pages 4-8, the Action rejects claims 1-28 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(e) as allegedly being anticipated by U.S. Patent Application Publication No. 2002/0069207 to Alexander et al. (hereinafter "Alexander"). Applicants respectfully traverse this rejection.

For at least the following reasons, Alexander does not anticipate claim 1.

Claim 1 recites:

A prompt object on a computer-readable medium used in creating a report to be executed in a reporting system, wherein the report may specify a prompt object as a property of the report, the prompt object comprising:

a question to be asked of a user; and  
at least one validation property;  
wherein the prompt object is used in creating a report to be executed in a reporting system, wherein the report may specify a prompt object as a property of the report, and wherein the prompt object is an object separate from the report such that prompt object may be used more than once in a single report or may be used in more than one report.  
(Emphasis added).

Alexander does not disclose a prompt object that includes at least one validation property. Specifically, Alexander does not disclose "the prompt object comprising: ... at least one validation property," as recited in claim 1.

On page 5, the Action alleges that Alexander discloses this feature in paragraph [0030]. In this paragraph, Alexander discloses:

Each question will be assigned a set of answers for the user to select. Preferably, there are four types of answers that can be associated with questions: either-or, either-or-other, multiple answer and free text. With an either-or answer, the user may only select one of the possible answers. An either-or-other answer allows the user to select a single suggested answer or to enter a more appropriate answer than those suggested. With a multiple answer question, the user can select as many suggested answers as appropriate. A free text answer does not provide any suggested answers, but allows the user to enter an appropriate answer.

Page 6 of the Action equates the survey of Alexander with the claimed prompt object ("the survey, which is considered the prompt object"). The Action further states that "assigning different types of answers to each question in a survey *implies* a validation of data type for the answer to the question in the survey" (emphasis added). Applicants respectfully disagree.

Contrary to the statement made in the Action, assigning different types of answers to questions in a survey does not imply that the survey includes a validation property for a data type of the answer. It is noted that Alexander does not use the terminology "validation" or "data type." Hence, it appears that the Action is arguing that Alexander's survey *inherently* includes information that validates a "data-type" of the answer. Applicants note that:

"To establish inherency, the extrinsic evidence 'must make clear that the missing descriptive matter is necessarily present in the thing described in the reference, and that it would be so recognized by persons of ordinary skill. Inherency, however, may not be established by probabilities or possibilities. The mere fact that a certain thing may result from a given set of circumstances is not sufficient.' "In re Robertson, 169 F.3d 743, 745, 49 USPQ2d 1949, 1950-51 (Fed. Cir. 1999) (citations omitted).

Paragraph [0030] does not, however, disclose that Alexander's survey necessarily includes a validation property to validate a "data type" of an answer. This paragraph indicates that a user may: (1) "only select one of the possible answers;" (2) select "a single suggested answer or to enter a more appropriate answer than those suggested;" (3) select "as many suggested answers as appropriate;" or (4) enter a "free text answer [that] does not provide any suggested answers, but allows the user to enter an appropriate answer." Nowhere does paragraph [0030] of Alexander explicitly disclose that the survey includes a validation property for validating data types of answers. Moreover, Alexander does not even disclose any component or program validating "data types" of answers, contrary to the assertion made in the Action. The Action speculates that Alexander's survey includes this feature, however, in light of *In re Robertson*, "[i]nherency. . . may not be established by probabilities or possibilities." *Id.* Thus, the Action has not shown that Alexander's survey includes a validation property to anticipate the feature of "the prompt object comprising: ... at least one validation property," as recited in claim 1. Therefore, claim 1 is believed to be in condition for allowance and allowance thereof is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-5, which depend from claim 1, also are in condition for allowance due to their dependence on an allowable claim.

Independent claims 6, 14, and 21 are allowable for reasons analogous to those given in support of claim 1.

Claims 7-13, 15-20, and 22-28, which respectively depend from claims 6, 14, and 21, also are in condition for allowance due to their dependence on an allowable claim.

#### **Declaration under 37 C.F.R. 1.131**

On pages 8-9, the Action states that the "declaration filed 10/2/05 under 37 CFR 1.131 has been considered but is ineffective to overcome the Alexander reference." Applicants respectfully disagree.

At this time, however, Applicants preserve the right to challenge this finding and may supplement and/or appeal this finding should a final rejection be issued.



**CONCLUSION**

Since the cited references, taken either singly or in combination, fail to teach or suggest the combinations set forth in the pending claims, and further fail to provide any motivation or suggestion of the desirability of modifying the structures or methods to arrive at the claimed combinations, Applicants submit that the pending claims are allowable over the cited references. Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner withdraw the rejections, allow the pending claims, and pass the application to issue.

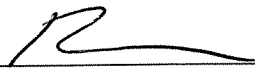
If the Examiner believes that a telephone conference or interview would advance prosecution of this application in any manner, the undersigned stands ready to conduct such a conference at the convenience of the Examiner.

If there are any fees due, including any fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.116 or §1.117 which are not enclosed herewith, or any fees required for extension of time under 37 C.F.R. §1.136, please charge such fees to our Deposit Account No. 50-0206.

Respectfully submitted,

HUNTON & WILLIAMS

By:

  
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Date: May 30, 2006

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